REMARKS

The following is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated February 19, 2009, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 19, 2009. The Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 14, 19, 27, 29, 31, 36-41 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Goldberg (U.S. 2004/0013112).

Rejections under §102(e)

Claim 1 recites the limitations of determining that a MAC destination address is included in an entry in an address resolution table. Goldberg does not teach or suggest these limitations.

Goldberg discloses a technique for packet filtering on packets received over a network based on the sockets associated with the packets. Upon receiving a packet, a hash calculator computes a hash of the socket associated with the packet. The hash result is used to locate a hash pointer in a hash table that identifies a specific list of sessions in a session table (see Goldberg at paragraph [0073]). In the Office Action, the Examiner equates the socket to the MAC destination address. However, in Goldberg, the socket is not stored in the hash table, rather the hash result computed from the socket is stored in the hash table. Therefore, Goldberg cannot teach or suggest the limitations of determining that the MAC destination address of a packet is included in the address resolution table.

In addition claim 1 recites the limitations of obtaining an address resolution table (ART) index associated with the MAC destination address from the entry in the address resolution table and storing the ART index and packet information in a data structure associated with a state table. Goldberg does not teach or suggest these limitations either.

In the Office Action, the Examiner equates the hash result to the claimed ART index. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's position because, in Goldberg, the hash result is used only to locate a specific hash pointer in the hash table. Nowhere does Goldberg teach that the hash result and/or hash pointer is stored in the session table or in a data structure associated with the session table. The disclosed hash pointer is simply used to identify a list of sessions stored in the session table. In

contrast, claim 1 expressly recites the limitations of storing the ART index in a data structure associated with a state table.
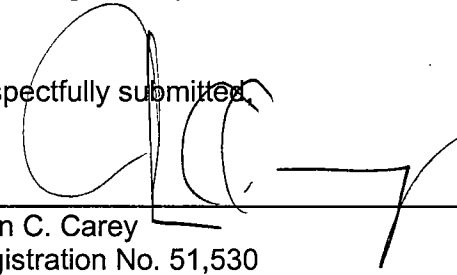
As the foregoing illustrates, Laksono fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1. Therefore, this reference cannot anticipate claim 1 or claims 2-9, dependent thereon. For this reason, Applicants submit that claims 1-9 are in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 14 and 31 recite limitations similar to those discussed in conjunction with claim 1. Therefore, claims 14 and 31 are allowable for at least the same reasons as allowable claim 1. The remaining claims depend on either allowable claim 11 or 18 and are, therefore, also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, Applicants believe that they have overcome all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed February 19, 2009, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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